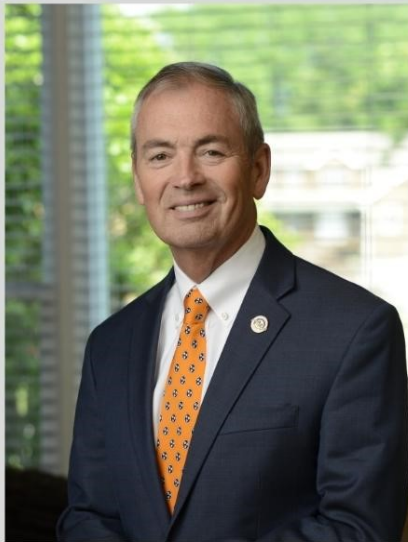




JAN 2022 | VOL 12 ISSUE 1

THE COUNTY CONNECTION

A Monthly Newsletter from Mayor Randall Hutto
Mt. Juliet | Lebanon | Watertown



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Sara Patton, District 9**

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A Word from Mayor Hutto...

Happy New Year! It seems as though it was only recently that we were ringing in 2021, and now 2022 is here and we are more hopeful than ever for a bright future ahead of us. The past two years have been challenging, to say the least. However, our county employees, community leaders, countless non-profit organizations and their many volunteers have remarkably navigated these uncharted waters. It is without a doubt that Wilson County is called "the Place to Be" because of the good people who serve to better our community. With that said, many of our friends and neighbors are working tremendously to aid those who were impacted by the severe weather last month. To those who have been working tirelessly in the storm recovery, we thank you. I am proud to say that here in Wilson County, Tennessee, we do not take our reputation of being known as the Volunteer State lightly. Mother Teresa once said, "We ourselves feel that what we are doing is just a drop in the ocean. But the ocean would be less because of that missing drop." This year, we will set many goals and ambitions for our county overall. But each drop counts, no matter the size. So, to all of those who are serving our community, your hard work is sincerely appreciated. I am looking forward to all that this year has to offer. My office staff and I are excited to serve our citizens and working with you to continue making Wilson County "the Place to Be" in 2022!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Randall Hutto".

Commissioner Spotlight: Sara Patton District 9



Contact INFORMATION

114 Statesville-Main
Watertown, TN 37184

+1 (615) 428-8593

Wilson County LANDFILL

WINTER HOURS

MONDAY-FRIDAY
7:00AM-3:00PM

ALL LOADS MUST BE
CHECKED INTO THE SCALE
HOUSE BY 2:30 P.M.

PLEASE DIRECT QUESTIONS
TO 615.449.6684

Wilson County Health Dept. Relocates COVID-19 Testing & Vaccinations Sites

Effective Tuesday, January 4, 2022, the Wilson County Health Department will offer COVID-19 testing at the Wilson County Fairgrounds. Testing will be conducted on Mondays-Fridays from 8:30-10:30a.m. (excluding holidays). *No appointments are needed for testing*. Those wishing to receive a COVID-19 test may enter through James E. Ward Ag Road off of Tennessee Boulevard and follow the signage to the testing site. From there, residents may remain in their vehicles for the duration of the test. Walk-ups may also receive a test. Furthermore, self-test kits will be handed out at the fairgrounds testing site and at the health department. Self-test kits are free and easy to use. The turnaround time for self-test kits and PCR tests is 2-3 days.

COVID-19 vaccines are offered at the health department *via appointment only* Mondays - Fridays from 12:30p.m. - 4:00p.m. The Wilson County Health Department is located at 927 E. Baddour Pkwy, Lebanon, TN 37087. To schedule a COVID-19 vaccination appointment, please call the health department at (615)444-5325 .One may also stop by the health department in-person or online at www.vaccines.gov to schedule an appointment. Same-day vaccine appointments cannot be scheduled. *If an appointment is scheduled online, please bring a screenshot of your QR code as verification.

For questions, please call the Wilson County Health Department at (615)444-5325.

**The Wilson County Health Department is owned and operated by the TN Department of Health.*

Rockwood Sustainable Solutions Holds 4th Annual Christmas Tree Recycling Initiative

Rockwood Sustainable Solutions has joined with Wilson County to launch the 4th Annual "Merry Mulching" initiative, which provides Wilson County residents with a convenient way to recycle their live Christmas trees for FREE. Now through January 10, 2022, residents are invited to participate in "Merry Mulching" by dropping off their live Christmas trees in the designated recycling bin placed at the entrance of the Rockwood property located at 510 Hartman Drive in Lebanon, Tenn. All decorations, including lights, ornaments and tinsel must be removed from the tree prior to being placed in the recycling bin. The drop-off bin is accessible 24/7.

"We are honored to partner with Mayor Hutto and Wilson County to provide our neighbors free live Christmas tree recycling" said Lincoln Young, CEO of Rockwood Sustainable Solutions. "This is our fourth consecutive year to offer this service, and we are amplifying our efforts this year with the launch of the 'Merry Mulching' initiative, encouraging every live tree owner in Wilson County to recycle."

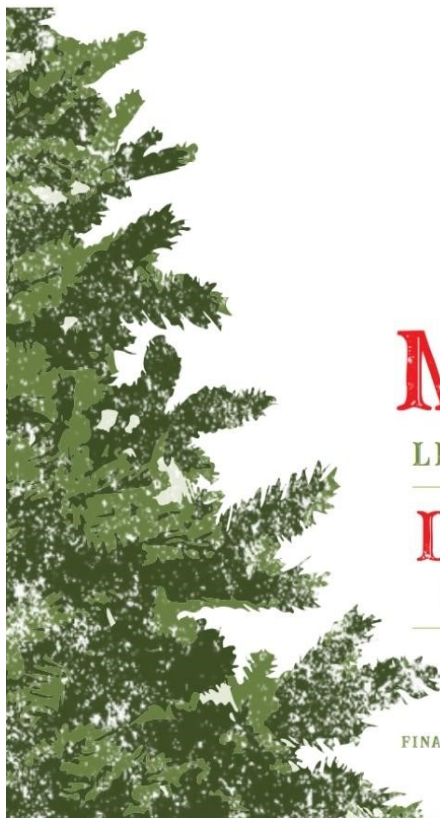
Once processed by Rockwood, the recycled live trees will become landscaping mulch used to beautify, and enrich the soil at, commercial and residential properties across Wilson County. Wilson Farmer's Co-op is the local retailer of Rockwood's range of mulch offerings. In addition to the environmental benefits of recycling live Christmas trees, doing so is much safer than breaking down and burning a live tree in a residential fireplace. For each tree recycled during the "Merry Mulching" initiative, Rockwood will also make a monetary donation to the Wilson County FCA.



January 01
New Year's Day

January 17
Martin Luther
King Day

-
National Blood
Donor Month



PROUDLY PRESENTS

MERRY MULCHING

LIVE CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING

DEC. 25 - JAN. 10

510 HARTMAN DRIVE - LEBANON, TN 37087

PLACE LIVE TREE IN BIN LOCATED AT ENTRANCE
NO DECORATIONS • NO LIGHTS • NO TINSEL

FINANCIAL DONATION TO WILSON COUNTY FCA FOR EACH RECYCLED TREE
MORE INFO AT ROCKWOODRECYCLING.COM

*"There are better
things ahead
than any we
leave behind."
-C.S. Lewis*

December Severe Weather Resource Page

Volunteer

Volunteers can connect with Tennessee Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster at www.tnvoad.org/donate/

Tennessee Statewide Crisis Phone Line

Call 855-CRISIS-1 (855-274-7471) to speak with a caring, trained mental health professional, 24-hours-a-day, 7-days-a-week, if you are experiencing a mental health emergency. You can also text TN to 741741.

Give

In times of disaster, financial donations are the best way to aid those in need. Cash can be used immediately in response to a crisis, and allows disaster relief organizations to purchase exactly what is needed, when it's needed. Cash gives relief organizations the means to procure supplies near the affected area, which cuts down on transportation time and cost. Monetary contributions also support local economies and ensure that businesses can operate when relief supplies diminish. Charity Navigator lists many non-profit organizations supporting the tornado relief efforts in Tennessee and other states impacted over the weekend.

Crisis Cleanup

A Crisis Cleanup service is in place for Tennesseans who need help with debris removal and home cleanup from the recent severe weather. All services are free, but service is not guaranteed due to the expected overwhelming need. Individuals needing assistance should call the hotline at 800-451-1954.

MJ4HOPE

If you were affected by the tornado and are in need of immediate assistance please reach out to us! And if you weren't affected and are compelled to donate, your tax-deductible donation can be made securely on our website as well! Visit MJ4Hope.org to make a donation, and for questions, email amy@eventsm3.com.

Filing Insurance Claims

After a disaster, file your claim as soon as possible. Call your insurance company or agent with your policy number and other relevant information. Your policy may require that you make the notification within a certain time frame. Save all receipts, including those from the temporary repairs covered by your policy. TDCI's Insurance Division can be reached at (615) 741-2218 or online at www.tn.gov/commerce.

American Red Cross

The American Red Cross continues to serve those affected by the recent severe weather. Emergency assistance is available to individuals whose homes were destroyed or majorly impacted. For more information, please contact the American Red Cross by calling 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

You can also do your part to support the tornado recovery by scheduling a blood donation. Make an appointment at redcross.org/give-blood

Rx Open

Rx Open provides information on the operating status of healthcare facilities in areas impacted by a disaster. Visit their website at rxopen.org/

Avoiding Scams

While many people seek to help during times of disaster, unfortunately there is also an increased risk for scams and fraud. Watch out for upfront fees to help you claim services, benefits, or get loans. The Tennessee Division of Consumer Affairs can be reached at (615) 741-4737 or online at www.tn.gov/consumer.

Hiring Contractors

Before hiring a professional such as a contractor, consumers should first verify that the individual is properly licensed to work in Tennessee by visiting www.verify.tn.gov to conduct a license check. Keep a record of your property damage and any repairs made to your property.

If you are dealing with a company or person who promises to remove debris from your property, ask them to list the services they will provide in writing. The Tennessee Board for Licensing Contractors can be reached at (615) 741-8307 or online at www.tn.gov/commerce.

These resources and more available at www.tn.gov/tema/get-involved/december-severe-weather.html

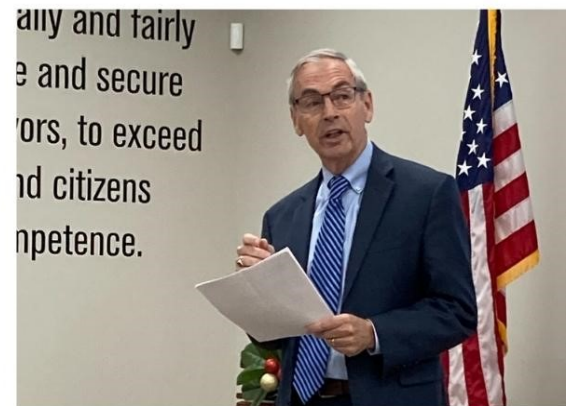
Election Commission Hosts Open House for New Building

An Open House was held at the New Election Commission Building on December 15, 2021. Philip Warren made the opening remarks. Other guest speakers included Secretary of State, Tre Hargett, and County Mayor, Mayor Hutto.

Robert Baines, Director of Maintenance, and his team took on the challenge of transforming the old Fred's building into an operational Election Commission building with storage capabilities.

Now located across the street from its old location, the new Election Commission building can be found at 230 East Gay St.

Lebanon, TN 37087. Stop by during business hours and take a look at the newly remodeled building!



Getting both your COVID-19 vaccine and your flu vaccine is the best way to minimize risk to you and your loved ones.

covid19.tn.gov & tn.gov/health/fightflu

Wilson County Retirees Brunch

On December 15, Wilson County Government Retirees gathered together for food and fellowship. It was a great time to see several of our former co-workers and celebrate the holidays together. The gathering was organized by our employee benefits department, and the meal was catered by Cracker Barrel. We would like to send a special thank you to Holly Taylor and her team for making this wonderful gathering possible!



Happy Retirement

Congratulations to Mrs. Debbie Green-Fischer, who retired on December 28th. Debbie has been with the county for twenty-eight years. Starting out as the Assistant Deputy Finance Director, she eventually shifted roles and became the Risk & Insurance Manager. Debbie is a beloved member of the Finance Department's team, and we sure will miss her. Congratulations on your retirement, Debbie! Be sure to stop by and visit us every now and then!





FREE COMPUTER TRAINING

Basic Computer Skills

Thursday, January 13th, 2022

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Learn new skills, get noticed, accelerate your job search, and improve your ability to complete online job applications!

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN:

- Basic Computer Skills, Keyboarding, Internet Usage, Copy/Paste, and Email

Goodwill Career Solutions Center
1985 Providence Pkwy, Mt. Juliet, TN 37122
For more information, contact our office at 615-288-2389.

 **Career Solutions.**
Our mission is changing lives.



FREE COMPUTER TRAINING

Office Productivity Skills Course

Wednesday & Thursday, January 26th & 27th, 2022

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN:

- Introduction to Microsoft Word, Excel & PowerPoint
- Gmail, Google Calendar, Google Docs, Sheets, and Drive

OTHER INFORMATION:

Students must complete a basic computer assessment before attending the class. Space for this class is limited to allow for social distancing. You need to sign up in advance by calling 615-288-2389 or emailing serena.sheppard@givegw.org.

-WHERE & CONTACT INFO-

Mt. Juliet Goodwill Career Solutions
1985 Providence Pkwy, Mt. Juliet, TN 37122
For more information, contact our office at 615-288-2389.

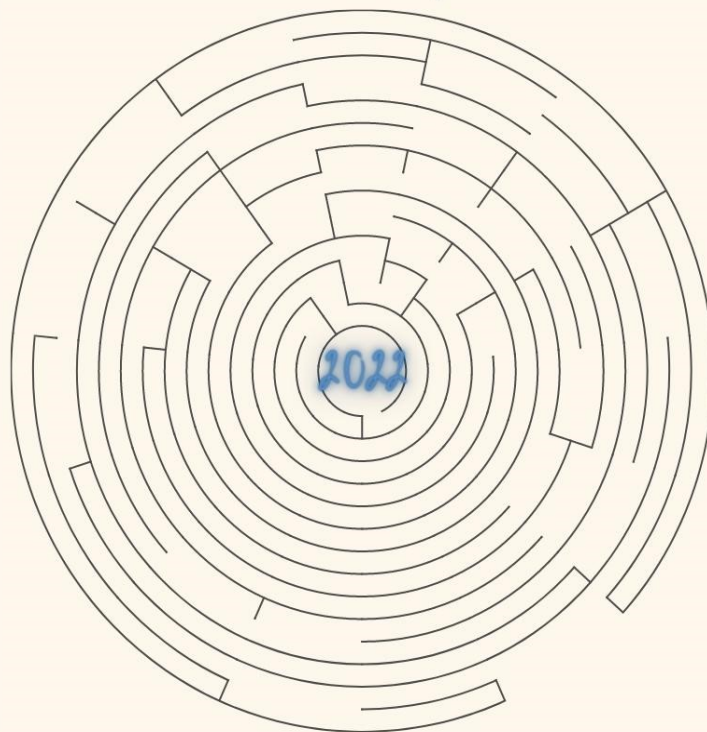
 **Career Solutions.**
Our mission is changing lives.

Wilson County Government Offices will be closed on **Monday, January 17** in observance of Martin Luther King Day.

Offices will return to their regular business hours on Tuesday, January 18
Wishing you all a Happy MLK Day!



Can you find the way through the maze into the new year?





Blood Drive

Vanderbilt Wilson County Hospital

Red Cross Bus
1411 Baddour Parkway
Lebanon, TN 37087

Tuesday, January 11, 2022
12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit redcrossblood.org and enter sponsor code: **VanderbiltWilsonCo** to schedule your appointment.

Save time with RapidPass: Complete pre-reading and health history questions at RedCrossBlood.org.

Come give Jan.1-31 to automatically be entered for a chance to win an exciting Super Bowl LVI getaway in LA for you and a guest! Plus, a chance to win a home theater package and \$500 e-gift card in January. Terms apply; see RedCrossBlood.org/SuperBowl.



Give Something that Means Something®

1-800-RED CROSS | RedCrossBlood.org | Download the Blood Donor App